	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/695,231	OHKUBO ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Tammy T Nguyen	2144
The MAILING DATE of this communication appeal claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT R of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in) or other appropriate commu IGHTS. This application is s	this application. If not included inication will be mailed in due course. THIS
1. X This communication is responsive to to the request for cor	ntinued examination filed on i	November 18, 2004.
2. X The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.		
3. \boxtimes The drawings filed on <u>25 October 2000</u> are accepted by th	e Examiner.	
 4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority unally all b) Some* c) None of the: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * Certified copies not received: 	e been received. e been received in Applicatio	n No
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONN THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.		a reply complying with the requirements
 A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subm INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which giv 		
 CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner Paper No./Mail Date Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1) 	son's Patent Drawing Review . 's Amendment / Comment or	in the Office action of
each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in a control of the co	sit of BIOLOGICAL MATE	ERIAL must be submitted. Note the
Attachment(s) 1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. ☑ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/0 Paper No./Mail Date	6. ⊠ Interview Si Paper No./ 08), 7. □ Examiner's	formal Patent Application (PTO-152) ummary (PTO-413), Mail Date <u>2/4/05</u> . Amendment/Comment
 Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material 	8. ⊠ Examiner's 9. ☐ Other	Statement of Reasons for Allowance WILLIAM A. CUCHLINSKI, JR. SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2500

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 2023I
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Reasons for allowance

- 1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
- 2. Claims 1-20 are allowed in response to applicant's persuasive arguments.
- 3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the prior art teach or suggest a control system for an automatic vending machine including a controlled device, said control system comprising: a terminal control unit connected to said controlled device for controlling said controlled device in accordance with a control program, and a main control unit connected to said terminal control unit through a transmission path for controlling said terminal control unit through communication with said terminal control unit, said main control unit including transfer means for transferring a signal with a new control program to said terminal control unit through said transmission path, terminal control unit comprising: memorizing means for memorizing the first-mentioned control program as a memorized control program, and rewriting means connected to said memorizing means and said transfer means for rewriting said memorized control program into said new control program.
- 4. All dependent claims further limit the independent claim. Therefore, they are also allowed.
 - 5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the

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payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Any inquiries concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Tammy T. Nguyen** who may be reached via telephone at (571) 272-3929. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. eastern standard time.

If you need to send the Examiner, a facsimile transmission regarding this instant application, please send it to (703) 872-9306. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Supervisor, Bill Cuchlinski, may be reached at (571) 272-3925.

TTN February 4, 2005

WILLIAM A. CUCHLINSKI, JR. SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3500